



GOV. MSG. NO. 1150

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 8, 2021, the following bill was signed into law:

SB0772 SD2 HD2 CD1

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.
ACT 050 (21)

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is one of the
2 most beautiful places on the planet, with breathtaking
3 landscapes, lush tropical forests, and rich ocean resources.
4 The State is home to amazing ecosystems that include a unique
5 mix of flora and fauna, including dozens of endemic Hawaiian
6 birds that can be found nowhere else on earth; approximately
7 one thousand four hundred species of native plants,
8 ninety per cent of which are endemic to the State; and familiar
9 marine mammals that are closely associated with the State,
10 including the Hawaiian monk seal and humpback whale.

11 The legislature also finds that state residents understand
12 the importance of these unique resources and appreciate their
13 value. More specifically, residents appreciate the beloved
14 native and endemic plants and animals of Hawaii, strongly
15 believe that these resources must be preserved for future
16 generations, and support opportunities to directly contribute to
17 the conservation of these critical resources.

18 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:



- (1) Establish special number motor vehicle license plates that commemorate the importance of environmental conservation, and use proceeds from the special number plate program to fund conservation and protection efforts; and
- (2) Increase initial application and renewal fees for special number plates.

SECTION 2. Chapter 249, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§249- Special number plates for environmental conservation; authorized. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the director of finance shall issue to any registered owner of a motor vehicle, who is a resident of the State and has completed the application and paid the required fees, special number plates that commemorate the importance of environmental conservation, for the registered owner's motor vehicle.

(b) The director of finance of the city and county of Honolulu shall establish special number plate designs that commemorate the importance of environmental conservation. The design shall:



1 (1) Contain words or images, or both, that indicate that
2 the special number plate is being issued to
3 commemorate the importance of environmental
4 conservation;

5 (2) Be similar in shape and size to the uniform state
6 number plate prescribed by law; and

7 (3) Be readily identifiable and distinguishable under
8 actual traffic conditions.

9 The director of finance of the city and county of Honolulu shall
10 consult with the directors of finance of the counties of Kauai,
11 Maui, and Hawaii; the chiefs of police of the city and county of
12 Honolulu and the counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii; and the
13 chairperson of the board of land and natural resources in
14 establishing the special number plate design, which shall be
15 visually attractive and highlight Hawaii's environment, native
16 species, or both.

17 (c) Each special number plate design shall not:

18 (1) Infringe upon or otherwise violate any trademark,
19 trade name, service mark, copyright, or other
20 proprietary or property right;



1 (2) Represent any obscene or degrading image, idea, word,

2 or phrase;

3 (3) Advertise or endorse a product, brand, or service that

4 is provided for sale;

5 (4) Promote any religious belief;

6 (5) Promote any philosophy based on prejudice or that is

7 contrary to state civil rights laws; or

8 (6) Obstruct the visibility of the number plate's numbers

9 or letters or any other information that is required

10 by law to be on a number plate.

11 (d) Each special number plate shall be securely fastened

12 to the motor vehicle in lieu of the uniform state number plate.

13 (e) The director of finance shall charge a special number

14 plate fee at least equal to the county's cost of providing the

15 special number plate and administrative costs, if any, plus a

16 fundraising fee to be set by the department of land and natural

17 resources. The fundraising fee established by this subsection

18 shall be in addition to any other state or county fees collected

19 for a motor vehicle registration or license plates.

20 (f) The revenue generated by the fundraising fees

21 established pursuant to subsection (e) shall be deposited into



1 the conservation and resources enforcement special fund
2 established under section 199-1.5.

3 (g) The director of finance may revoke all special number
4 plates issued pursuant to this section if the total number of
5 registered owners of motor vehicles that obtain the special
6 number plates is less than one hundred fifty within three years
7 of issuance of the first special number plate.

8 (h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to
9 any plates issued pursuant to section 249-9.2.

10 (i) For the purposes of this section, unless a different
11 meaning appears from the context, "special number plate" means a
12 license plate that is not a uniform state number plate."

13 SECTION 3. Section 199-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

15 "(b) The following shall be deposited into the
16 conservation and resources enforcement special fund:

17 (1) Grants, awards, donations, gifts, transfers, or moneys
18 derived from public or private sources for the
19 purposes of enforcing the provisions of title 12;
20 chapters 6D, 6E, and 6K; or any rule adopted
21 thereunder;



(2) Fees, reimbursements, administrative charges, and penalties collected for activities related to the enforcement of natural, cultural, and historic resources protection laws and rules, except as otherwise provided by law that provides for deposits into other special funds administered by the department;

(3) Moneys derived from interest, dividends, or other income from the above-mentioned sources; [and]

(4) Revenues generated from section 249- ; and

[~~(4)~~] (5) Appropriations by the legislature to the special fund."

SECTION 4. Section 249-9.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§249-9.1 **Special number plates.** In addition to the number plates contracted on behalf of the counties by the director of finance of the city and county of Honolulu, the director of finance may provide, upon request, special number plates. The special number plates shall conform to the requirements provided for the uniform number plates except that the owner may request the choice and arrangement of letters and



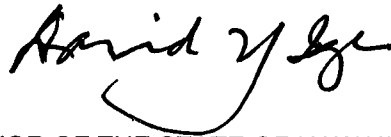
1 numbers. The maximum number of letters and numbers shall be six
2 and only one hyphen will be allowed in addition to and in lieu
3 of the six letters and numerals. No other punctuation marks
4 shall be allowed. The director of finance shall not issue
5 special number plates which have the letter and numeral
6 combination of regular plates, are misleading or publicly
7 objectionable. The fee for special number plates shall be [~~\$25~~]
8 \$60 upon initial application and [~~\$25~~] \$60 upon each annual
9 renewal of the vehicle registration. This fee shall not be
10 refundable. Re-application for special number plates must be
11 made upon a change in design of regular plates. The director of
12 finance may discard and allow for new applications of inactive
13 special number plates that have not been assigned or registered
14 during the preceding three years. The director of finance shall
15 adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to carry out this section."

16 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
19 provided that section 4 shall take effect on January 1, 2022.

S.B. NO. 772
S.D. 2
H.D. 2
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 08 day of JUN, 2021

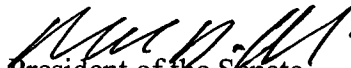
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ige", with a stylized flourish at the end.

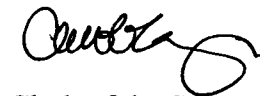
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: April 27, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate
of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2021.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 772, SD 2, HD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 27, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives